[Name of the Writer]

[Name of Instructor]

[Subject]

[Date]

“All the Sons of Cain” Analysis

"All the Sons of Cain" is a short story initially published in May/ June 2015 issue of Kenyon Review, and then in the short story collection titled as "You Should Pity Us Instead”. The story revolves around the painful quest of a mother for her missing son. An Israeli mother goes on a mission of finding her missing son who had been captured by Hamas. The brave woman referred to as “R’s Mother” conceals her identity during all her quest and sleeps at odd places like dumpsters and at beaches, behind the pile of cinder-blocks (Gustine). The story has been appropriately titled as “All the sons of Cain” keeping in mind the cruel and criminal mindset of the captivators of R. The title fits in completely and significantly as R is being treated cruelly and savagely by the people of his kind, just like Cain killed his own brother, Abel, very brutally (Quinones).

In addition to this, the story includes the tales of a number of mothers who narrate their instances of childbirth. Some of these childbirths were easy and the mothers did not feel any pain at all, while in some instances, the mothers felt intense labor pain while giving birth to their children. It happened mostly with the mothers who were experiencing motherhood for the first time. In one of the instances, the writer tells the tale of a mother who was just given birth to her fifth baby and she was very comfortable about it. The new mother told that the childbirth was very easy and she did not feel the pain at all. These tales have been included to make the world realize about the level of sacrifices a mother gives for her children and the intensity of pain she experiences during the childbirth.

**Works Cited**

Gustine, Amy. "All the Sons of Cain." Gustine, Amy. *You Should Pity Us Instead*. New York: Sarabande Books, 2016. 256. Print.

Quinones, R. J. (2014). *The Changes of Cain: Violence and the Lost Brother in Cain and Abel Literature* (Vol. 1201). Princeton University Press.